AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 10, 19 and 29-53 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 10, 19, 29, 37, and 45 have been amended. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for bandwidth management and sharing in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network (LAN), the method comprising:

reserving bandwidth for one or more of a first access device, a first access point and/or a first switch, wherein said reserving of said bandwidth is based on, at least in part, a device hierarchy established within the hybrid wired/wireless local area network, wherein said hierarchy is utilized for one or more of bandwidth reservation, bandwidth sharing, and/or bandwidth allocation within the hybrid LAN;

in response to a communication session associated with said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch, allocating at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth for use by said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch; and

utilizing said at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth during said communication session.

2. – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for bandwidth management and sharing in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network (LAN), the at least one code section being executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps comprising:

reserving bandwidth for one or more of a first access device, a first access point and/or a first switch, wherein said reserving of said bandwidth is based on, at least in part, a device hierarchy established within the hybrid wired/wireless local area network, wherein said hierarchy is utilized for one or more of bandwidth reservation, bandwidth sharing, and/or bandwidth allocation within the hybrid LAN;

in response to a communication session associated with said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch, allocating at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth for use by said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch; and

utilizing said at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth during said communication session.

11. – 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A system for managing bandwidth in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network (LAN), the system comprising:

at least one processor reserves bandwidth for one or more of a first access device, a first access point and/or a first switch, wherein said reserving of said bandwidth is based on, at least in part, a device hierarchy established within the

hybrid wired/wireless local area network, wherein said hierarchy is utilized for one or more of bandwidth reservation, bandwidth sharing, and/or bandwidth allocation within the hybrid LAN;

said at least one processor allocates at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth for use by said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch in response to a communication session associated with said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch; and

said at least one processor instructs said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch to utilize said at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth during said communication session.

20. – 28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method for bandwidth management and sharing in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

reserving bandwidth for one or more of a first access device, a first access point and/or a first switch;

in response to a communication session associated with said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch, allocating at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth for use by said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch;

utilizing said at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth during said communication session; and

utilizing at least an unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth during at least a second communication session.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, comprising receiving a request for bandwidth by one or both of said first and/or a second access points from one or both of said first and/or a second access devices, wherein one or more of said second access device, said second access point and/or a second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, comprising receiving a request for bandwidth by one or both of said first and/or second switches from one or both of said first and/or second access points.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein said allocating comprises allocating at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth and said at least an unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth upon one or both of an initiation of said communication session and/or during said communication session.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, wherein said reserving comprises reserving said bandwidth based on a device type of said first and/or a second access devices, wherein one or more of said second access device, a second access point and/or a second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein said reserving comprises the step of reserving said bandwidth based on a priority assigned to said device type.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 34, comprising identifying said device type and said priority of said device type prior to said reservation of said bandwidth.

36. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, comprising receiving bandwidth information associated with said first and/or a second access devices, said first and/or a second access points and said first and/or a second switches from one or more of a bandwidth management process, a quality of service management process, a load balancing management process, a session control process, and a network management process using at least one messaging protocol message, said received bandwidth information utilized for said allocating, wherein one or more of said second access device, said second access point and/or said second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for bandwidth management and sharing in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section being executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps comprising:

reserving bandwidth for one or more of a first access device, a first access point and/or a first switch;

in response to a communication session associated with said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch, allocating at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth for use by said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch;

utilizing said at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth during said communication session; and

utilizing at least an unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth during at least a second communication session.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, comprising code for receiving a request for bandwidth by one or both of said first and/or a second access points from one or both of said first and/or a second access devices, wherein one or more of said second access device, said second access point and/or a second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 38, comprising code for receiving a request for bandwidth by one or both of said first and/or second switches from one or both of said first and/or second access points.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, comprising code for allocating at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth and said at least an unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth upon one or both of an initiation of said communication session and/or during said communication session.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, comprising code for reserving said bandwidth based on a device type of said first and/or a second access devices, wherein one or more of said second access device, a second access point and/or a second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 41, comprising code for reserving said bandwidth based on a priority assigned to said device type.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 42, comprising code for identifying said device type and said priority of said device type prior to said reservation of said bandwidth.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, comprising code for receiving bandwidth information associated with said first and/or a second access devices, said first and/or a second access points and said first and/or a second switches from one or more of a bandwidth management process, a quality of service management process, a load balancing management process, a session control process, and/or a network management process using at least one messaging protocol message, said received bandwidth information utilized for said allocating, wherein one or more of said second access device, said second access point and/or said second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for managing bandwidth in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one processor reserves bandwidth for one or more of a first access device, a first access point and/or a first switch;

said at least one processor allocates at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth for use by said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch in response to a communication session associated with said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch;

said at least one processor instructs said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch to utilize said at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth during said communication session; and

said at least one processor instructs said one or more of said first access device, said first access point and/or said first switch to utilize at least an unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth during at least a second communication session.

46. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein said at least one processor receives a request for bandwidth by one or both of said first and/or a second access points from one or both of said first and/or a second access devices, wherein one or more of said second access device, said second access point and/or a second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

47. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 46, wherein said at least one processor receives a request for bandwidth by one or both of said first and/or second switches from one or both of said first and/or second access points.

48. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein said at least one processor allocates at least a portion of said reserved bandwidth and said at least an unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth upon one or both of an initiation of said communication session and/or during said communication session.

49. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein said at least one processor reserves said bandwidth based on a device type of said first and/or a second access devices, wherein one or more of said second access device, a second access point and/or a second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

50. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 49, wherein said at least one processor reserves said bandwidth based on a priority assigned to said device type.

51. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 50, wherein said at least one processor identifies said device type and said priority of said device type prior to said reservation of said bandwidth.

52. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein said at least one processor receives bandwidth information associated with said first and/or a second access devices, said first and/or a second access points and/or said first and/or a second switches from one or more of a bandwidth management process, a quality of service management process, a load balancing management process, a session control process, and/or a network management process using at least one messaging protocol message, said received bandwidth information utilized for said allocating, wherein one or more of said second access device, said second access point and/or said second switch utilize said unused remaining portion of said reserved bandwidth.

53. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein said at least one processor is one or more of a control processor, a bandwidth management controller, a quality of service controller, a load balancing controller, a session controller and/or a network management controller.